

NEW YORK HERALD.

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EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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Volume XLIV.....No. 324

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC, Fourteenth street—ITALIAN OPERA—10 P.M.

NIRLO'S GARDEN, Broadway—WHITE HORSE OF THE FERRIS—LAW FOR LADIES—8 P.M.

BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery—THREE MEN IN THE LIFE OF A FARMER—DOOM OF DEATH—8 P.M.

WINTER GARDEN, Broadway, opposite Bond street—SINGING—8 P.M.

WALLACK'S THEATRE, Broadway—WIND OATS—8 P.M.

LADY KENNEDY'S THEATRE, 6th Broadway—WIFE'S SECRET—8 P.M.

NEW BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery—FAST WOMEN OF THE MODERN TIMES—8 P.M.

THEATRE FRANCAIS, 55 Broadway—LA CROIX DE SAINT-MARTIN—8 P.M.

BARNUM'S AMERICAN MUSEUM, Broadway—A FARMER'S LITTLE SON—8 P.M.

WOOD'S MINSTRELS, 4th Broadway—ETHIOPIAN SONGS, DANCES, &c.—8 P.M.

BRANTON'S MINSTRELS, Mechanics' Hall, 47 Broadway—WIDE AWAKE—8 P.M.

NIRLO'S SALOON, Broadway—GRAND CHERRY'S MINSTRELS IN SONG, DANCES, &c.—8 P.M.

NEW OPERA HOUSE, 2nd Broadway—BRANTON'S PARLOR OPERA AND LITIC PRODUCTIONS—8 P.M.

CHATHAM AMPHITHEATRE—Afternoon and Evening—EUROPEAN FANTASY—8 P.M.

TRIPLE SHEET.

New York, Tuesday, November 23, 1859.

MAILS FOR EUROPE.

The New York Herald—Edition for Europe.

The Cunard mail steamship Asia, Capt. Lott, will leave this port for Liverpool.

The mails for Europe will close in this city at a quarter past eleven o'clock to-morrow morning.

The **EUROPEAN EDITION** of the **HERALD** will be published at ten o'clock in the morning. Single copies in wrappers, at cost.

Subscriptions and advertisements for any edition of the **NEW YORK HERALD** will be received at the following places in Europe:

LONDON: Sampson Low, Son & Co., 47 Ludgate Hill; Lanning, Starr & Co., 14 King William street; PEARCE, Loring & Co., 8, place de la Bourse; LAMOND, Loring & Co., No. 9, place de la Bourse; R. STUART, 10 Exchange street; HAYES, Loring & Co., 21 Rue Corniche; LAMOND, Loring & Co., 21 Rue Corniche.

The contents of the **EUROPEAN EDITION** of the **HERALD** will combine the news received by mail and telegraph at the office during the previous week and up to the hour of the publication.

The News.

By the arrival of the Saxonia from Southampton, and the receipt of the mails of the Canada from Boston yesterday evening, we received papers dated in Paris on the 4th and in London on the 5th instant, with interesting letters from our correspondents in Pekin and Shanghai, China, and the European capitals.

Our letter from Pekin will be found highly interesting, describing, as it does most graphically, the journey of the American diplomatic mission from Peking to that city, with all the incidents of note which occurred to its members on land and water during their travel. Some very fine rural scenery was presented to their eyes, and the country was fertile, seemingly fertile, and teeming with population. At one halting place they found the Chinese kitchens furnished with very fine cooking ranges, in which spring chickens were broiled on a fine coal fire. Some very splendid cattle—cows, bullocks and calves—were seen, and the milk and butter are said to be fine. The Chinese mules are so valuable that men take their place as "trackers" on the canals. The day after the embassy reached Peking the Provincial Judge of Kiangsu came to the American Minister officially, in order to discuss the manner of the interview with the Emperor. This Judge began his negotiations by stating his own expertise in settling knotty questions. Their next interview was with the Prime Minister, Kweliang. He spoke with great deference of the President of the United States, sometimes calling him "The Great Emperor," sometimes "The Princely Ruler," and sometimes "President," and explained that whereas envoys from inferior or tributary nations were expected to perform the operation of the kotan—three kneeling and nine knocks—the envoy from the Princely Ruler would only be expected to go through one kneeling and three knocks. This Mr. Ward, as is known, refused. Kweliang had a fixed idea that the American Minister in London had been seen to kneel to Queen Victoria; and he declared that if he were to go to the United States, and be required to kneel before the President, or even to burn incense before him, he should be happy to do so. After various conferences Mr. Ward sent in the President's letter, left Pekin, had his treaty ratified at another place, and has returned to Shanghai. Rev. W. A. Atchison, interpreter to the mission, died from cholera on his return towards Shanghai.

Some important extracts from the papers relative to the Italian imbroglio, the progress of the Hispano-Mexico war, and the state of feeling in England on the Harper's Ferry affair, are also given.

By way of England we have news from South America dated Montevideo, Sept. 30, Rio Janeiro the 9th, Bahia the 13th, and Pernambuco the 16th of October. Mr. Yancey, Minister from the United States to Buenos Ayres, landed at Southampton on his return to America. Amongst the cargo of the steamer was specie to the value of \$105,246. Business at Buenos Ayres was dull but improving; prices firm and tending to the rise. News of peace between Uruguay and Buenos Ayres at the last moment was giving national animation to all the country. The Emperor and Empress of Brazil had gone to visit some of the northern provinces of the empire, and were not expected to return before the month of April. A Rio letter says: "We are inclined to believe that good qualities of coffee will maintain their present value. We quote superior 6,200 to 6,400; good first, 5,900 to 6,100. From Pernambuco we learn that there had been but little doing during the month, the coffee crop being at an end, and markets without animation. Sugar—white quoted at 3,000 to 3,100 per arroba; brown, 2,800 to 2,900 per arroba.

The *De Soto* arrived from Havana yesterday, with dates to the 16th inst. Preparations were being made to receive the new Captain General with due honor. A Havana letter, however, of the 15th says a rumor was prevalent that General Sherman had arrived on the evening previous. Sugars

had advanced slightly, with 55,000 boxes on hand. Freight was lower, but in fair demand. Exchange on New York was at from three to four per cent premium. Some new difficulties had arisen between the port officials and the master of the brig A. A. Chapman, of New Orleans. A party of British officers, bound for Jamaica, had landed in Havana, and enjoyed a very friendly reception. The American ship *Swallow*, which arrived from Whampoa and St. Helena in 128 days, as before reported, had delivered 556 living cooties; lost during the voyage 83 by ship diseases, and missed fire, who, it is presumed, walked overboard. This is the second cargo brought by the *Swallow* to Cuba. The Vanderbilt mail steamer *North Star* reached this port from Aspinwall yesterday forenoon. She left Aspinwall on the 11th inst., and brings late and interesting news from New Granada, Central America, the States of the South Pacific and the West Indies.

An account of the disaster which occurred to the *North Star* on her outward trip is given in our columns.

Our advices from New Granada are dated at Carthagena on the 7th and Panama on the 11th of November. The United States ship *Levant*, now flagship of the Pacific Squadron, was at Panama from Valparaiso. It was said that two or three American war vessels would soon leave Panama for San Juan del Norte. A number of American sailors had been discharged at Panama, and went on shore, somewhat to the alarm of the native authorities. The policy of discharging the men in such a foreign port was questioned. The English mail steamer from Carthagena, at Panama, brought news of the capture of Mompos by the revolutionists under Nieto. Official reports of the battle, which was fought on the 31st of October, reached Carthagena on the 3d instant, but the details had not been received when the steamer left. Private letters state the slaughter was dreadful, the fighting for thirty-one hours. Calvo and his men were in a church; most of them are reported killed. This is the native report by letter. We have nothing from Bogota, the mail failing to reach Carthagena. Owing to the quantity of Bolivian silver coin which has been introduced into Panama, the merchants have come to a partial understanding not to receive the half dollars for more than thirty cents in future.

From Central America the dates are—Nicaragua the 15th, Guatemala the 22d, San Salvador the 22d, and San Jose, Costa Rica, the 29th of October. Mr. Clarke, the United States Minister to Guatemala, is said to be very low in health. A Mexican bishop and a number of exiled friars had arrived in Guatemala. The British Minister had left for San Salvador. The cochinal crop of Guatemala was damaged by heavy rains. San Salvador had settled her territorial disputes with Honduras. General Barrios was a candidate for the Presidency of San Salvador. The indigo crop promised to be very small, Nicaragua was still quiet. In Costa Rica the Constituent Assembly was in session, and Dr. Castro appointed its President. Dr. Monteleagre had been nominated Provisional President of the republic. One or two attempts at revolution had failed. The coffee crop was not very promising.

The news from the South Pacific is dated at Valparaiso Oct. 16 and Callao Oct. 27. Chile was again quiet, and most of the parties arrested after the assassination of General Leal had been set at liberty. Copiapo experienced one hundred and sixteen shocks of earthquake in twenty-four hours during the late convulsion. From Guayaquil, Ecuador, we learn that the rival chiefs are still quarrelling amongst themselves, and Castilla waiting patiently to step in during the party divisions and gain his own ends. Bolivia was threatened with war by Peru. Castilla was at Paita, with his army encamped at La Flaca, on the Rio Chira. Some time ago he wrote to General San Roman, commander of the southern army, not to increase the number of his troops, as he would soon return from his expedition against Ecuador and would then join San Roman with his whole force, in order to make a demonstration against Bolivia. Trade was generally very dull in all the ports. A Chilean war vessel towed the United States ship *Levant* out to sea from Valparaiso—a high and very rare national compliment.

There were nine British and fourteen American vessels loading at the Chincha Islands on the 25th ult. The guano and freight rates are given in our correspondence from Peru. We have received files of the official *Gazette* of San Domingo up to the 22d of October. General Santana had recovered his health and resumed the duties of the Presidency, which had been discharged *pro tem.* by the Vice President, Gen. Alfau. The paper contains some government proclamations, but no news of interest.

The late excitement at Charleston had somewhat subsided yesterday, the presence of the military having inspired confidence in the public mind. Rumors of organized bands in Ohio and elsewhere for the rescue of the prisoners were, however, rife. Governor Wise is reported to have received assurances of the existence of these organizations from Governor Chase, of Ohio, and also from the United States Marshal in that State, as well as from responsible persons in the North and West. Our despatch from Charleston gives the latest news from that quarter, from which and our correspondence, &c., given elsewhere, can be formed some estimate of the state of public feeling in Virginia on the all-absorbing events which have occurred within her borders.

The rumor that the troops ordered to the Rio Grande were for the invasion of the Northern States of Mexico is contradicted. Only such companies were ordered to the frontiers as the government deemed necessary for the protection of American interests in that quarter.

The overland mail from California, with advices to the 31st October, reached Jefferson City yesterday. The news is unimportant. Business at San Francisco was about the same as previously reported. The business portion of Volcanoville was burned on the 29th, involving a loss of over \$50,000. General Scott reached Portland on the 21st. General Harney left Portland soon after the arrival of General Scott at that place, but on what business is not stated.

The trial of Mr. Warren Leland, landlord of the Metropolitan Hotel, of this city, on criminal charges in connection with the Colchester Bank defalcation, was to have taken place at Colchester yesterday, but owing to the non-attendance of Jones, the defaulting cashier, who was afraid to "face the music," the case was dismissed and Mr. Leland honorably discharged. Our special reporter sends us a full report of the proceedings.

A meeting was held last evening at the Church of the Parian, Union square (Dr. Cheever's), convened for the purpose of receiving a statement drawn up by certain members of the church, with reference to the mission of Miss Johnson to England for the raising of money for the church in question. A most protracted discussion followed the reading of the statement. The meeting was thinly attended, there being but few more than one hundred persons present. Opinion was pretty equally divided, however, as to the propriety and impropriety of such an appeal being made, special umbrage having been taken to the letter of Dr. Cheever to the Rev. Mr. Spurgeon, of London, with reference to the alleged hostile spirit manifested against him by a portion of his own congregation and the general body of the pro-slavery party of the country. The debate was very animated, and personalities were freely indulged in by the supporters of the statement (which was specially drawn up for transmission to England, and with a view to assist Miss Johnson on her mission on the one side), and those who were opposed,

not only to various assertions made therein, but to the idea of seeking "foreign" aid at all, on the other. The proceedings were protracted till midnight, and eventually it was resolved that the statement should be submitted to a committee of five, who are to report upon it to the general meeting to be held this evening, at half past eight o'clock, at the same place.

The Board of Aldermen met last evening. The business before them was unimportant. In consequence of their next regular meeting day falling on Thanksgiving, Monday, the 28th inst., was fixed for the next meeting of the Board. The Board accepted the invitation of Major General Sandford to be present at a military salute in front of the City Hall on Thursday next. On the same occasion a standard is to be presented by General Paes, of Venezuela, to a troop of the First regiment of New York State militia. The Board of Commissioners of the Central Park notified their approval of a line of grade for the continuation of the Eighth avenue, also for the grade of the continuation of 110th street from the Fifth avenue to Ninth avenue.

At the meeting of the Board of Councilmen last evening a resolution for the appointment of a special committee to report proper measures for the prevention of abuses in the harbor was adopted. Professor Lowe was permitted to use Reservoir square two weeks longer to exhibit his balloon. The chairman of the committee appointed to draft an ordinance for the examination of steam boilers stated that he would report next Monday. The Board concurred with the Aldermen to reinstate Engine Company No. 5 and Hose Company No. 4; also in the estimates for building a house in 126th street for Hook and Ladder Company No. 7. The Comptroller sent in a statement of expenses paid, and of advances and payments made on various trust accounts prior to December 31, 1858, to contractors for executing sundry street and other improvements, to be reimbursed by assessments to defray the cost of such works; also an approximate estimate of the deficiency existing in the trust on December 31, 1858. A resolution to appropriate \$500 to each of the Presidents of the Common Council for services as Health Commissioners, was laid over. General Sandford invited the Mayor and Councilmen to receive a marching salute on Evacuation Day, and to attend the presentation by General Paes, of a standard to a troop of the First regiment, New York State militia.

The Aldermanic Committee on Streets had the subject of widening Nassau street before them yesterday, but did nothing further than to examine a map in reference to it, which was submitted by the petitioners. The plan of this map is described in our report. The widening of Laurens street was also taken up, but nothing further was done than to hear the parties in reference to it.

A very important seizure of diamonds, jewelry and watch movements, amounting in their aggregate value to \$60,000, was made a few days ago on the arrival of the steamship *Asia* at Jersey City. The property belonged principally to two Spanish gentlemen. Another party is also implicated in an attempt to smuggle some ten dozen sets of valuable shirt studs. The *Asia* arrived on the 13th, but from the unwillingness of the authorities to make the matter public, the particulars of the transaction did not transpire until yesterday.

Dr. Wilson, the physician charged with attempting to poison his wife by chloroform, was admitted to bail yesterday by Justice Walsh. His examination was taken, when he asserted that he was entirely innocent of the charge, which he would shortly prove by witnesses. A lecture was delivered in the Cooper Institute last evening, by Dr. Scudder, on the late rebellion in India, to a very large audience, an abstract of which will be found in another column.

A trotting contest was commenced yesterday afternoon on the Union Course between Flora Temple and the Bashaw stallion Geo. N. Patchen, but darkness coming on before the affair was settled it will be finished to-day, beginning at 2 P. M. Three heats were closely contested by these celebrated trotters, Flora winning the first heat in 2:28—2:25, and the third was given to the stallion in 2:24. The time made on this occasion, the weather, condition of the track, &c., considered, may be set down as the very best ever made. Flora went in harness, the stallion under the saddle.

By a recent inspection it appears that Brooklyn contains 4,483 tenement houses, or dwellings containing more than three families, with an aggregate of 76,764 inmates.

The first mortgage holders of the Erie Railroad have applied to the Comptroller to advertise the road for sale under the law of 1845. The matter has been placed in the hands of the Attorney General, who will proceed at once to foreclose the mortgages and sell the road.

The City Inspector's report of the mortality in this city for the week ending on Saturday last, shows a slight increase in the number of deaths over the week previous. The principal causes of death are to be found in diseases of the lungs and throat, numbering 192 cases, the brain and nerves, 92, and the stomach and bowels 51, out of a total of 417. No particular complaint appears to prevail at present. The city is uncommonly free of fevers, with the exception of scarlet, by which there were 26 deaths. As usual, the greatest general mortality was amongst children of ten years of age and under, numbering 24 deaths, or rather more than half the aggregate.

The foreign news by the Canada, which contained accounts of a firmer and more active cotton market in Liverpool, owing to the large receipts at the South, failed to exercise any decided influence on prices here. The sales embraced about 2,600 bales, 2,000 of which were sold in transit, closing, for lots on the spot, on the basis of 11½c. Flour was better, with some demand for export and the market more active, closing at an advance of 5c. per bbl. for State and Western. Wheat, owing to the character of the foreign news, was more active, and closed with increased firmness. Among the sales were several cargoes of Milwaukee club at prices given in another column. Corn was in good supply, while sales were moderate and prices easier. Rye was sold at 85c. and barley at 75c. 70c. per bushel. Pork, under the influence of a speculative feeling, was more active and prices firm. Mess sold at \$15 25 a \$15 40, and prime at \$10 75. Sugars were steady, while the sales were confined to about 410 hhds., at rates given in another place. Coffee was quiet and prices unchanged. Freight was firm for English ports, with a fair amount of orders. Among the engagements to Liverpool were 2,600 hhds. flour at 2s. 8, 8,000 bushels wheat at 6d. in ships' bags; and to London 1,000 bushels oilcake at 2s. 6d., 75 shillings per ton at 2s. 6d., and cheese at 40s. To Glasgow 500 bales cotton at ½d.

The Position and Prospects of the Republican Party.

Thirty years ago a small knot of enthusiasts, following in the footsteps of the English fanatic of Exeter Hall, started the abolition party in this country. As a party it has never been a successful institution. Beginning its career at a time when the abolitionists of England were about to achieve their triumphant destruction of the industrial, social and moral organizations of the British West India colonies, its fallacious theories have had to encounter in their propagation the hard facts of failure in practical application, set forth in the history of the decline of Jamaica and her sister islands. In addition to this impediment, the tide of abolitionism began to ebb in Europe, and the fact has naturally reacted upon its progress here. For these reasons it has never attained in this country the dimensions of a great party, and it never will. The mania of philo-negroism has run its course in the world, and has achieved all its triumphs it will ever obtain. But this shadow of a party has been a convenient instrument which disappointed politicians and am-

bitions demagogues have frequently availed themselves of to further their own schemes.

In 1840 it cast seven thousand votes, and did no special injury to any one. In 1844 the enemies of Mr. Clay seized upon it to defeat his claims to the Presidency, which it did by giving New York to Mr. P. K. On this occasion the abolition vote was sixty-two thousand, since when it has never been presented in an unadulterated state. In 1848 Mr. Van Buren took possession of it for the purpose of defeating Gen. Cass, which was done by giving the vote of New York to Gen. Taylor. During this conflict the abolitionist or free soil vote reached two hundred and ninety-one thousand throughout the Union. After this the whig party was entirely broken up, and the demagogical portion of its leaders sought a fusion with the abolition sentiment, the effecting of which left the old whig statesmen, who would not stoop to such a course, high and dry on the sands of politics. In 1852 the abolitionist or free soil portion of the democratic vote was reduced to a hundred and thirty thousand, a large portion of which went over to the republican camp in 1856. In that year the demagogues were disappointed in the effort to foist their candidate on the opposition elements, and they contrived to defeat Fremont in the election.

Ever since that time they have been at work abolishing the elements and principles of the republican party, and carrying it nearer and nearer to the verge of the precipice, from which it must inevitably fall into the gulf of treason, disunion and civil war which is so openly proclaimed by the apostles of abolitionism. These fanatics unblushingly curse Washington, denounce the Union as a league with hell, and proclaim open treason to the constitution. But there is, in the honest portion of the opposition ranks, a vast number of patriotic citizens, who love the Union and the constitution, and who are not willing, and never will be, to give up all the great material and moral benefits which the Union and the constitution guarantee to the country, North as well as South, in order to cling to treason and disunion with the demagogues. They have seen the danger into which the republican party has been led, and the recent State elections show that there are a million of conservative voters in the Northern States who have not followed, and will not follow, the leaders to the precipice of disunion. Thus the demagogues, in abolishing the republican party, have shown it of its beauty and its strength, as did Delilah the giant Samson.

The honest and earnest elements of the opposition now look round for their old leaders. There is a hankering after the men whose names were cheered of old, and whose steadfast loyalty to the teachings of Washington and the obligations to the constitution, was a beacon to patriotism and a safeguard to the Union. Many of these have passed away, but no small number still remains. There are Everett, of Massachusetts; Hunt, of New York; Rives, of Virginia; and hundreds of others, who, if they would come forth and buckle on their armor, would rally at once hundreds of thousands of voters to their support, who do not wish to go into the democratic camp, and who will not follow the republican leaders in their treasonable tendencies. We call upon these men to meet together and consult upon the condition of the times, and to organize the conservative elements of the country for the preservation of the Union. The republican party, under its present organization, has become abolitionized, and is undergoing the rapid dissolution which must ever attend every party seeking to adopt the insane teachings of Wendell Phillips and William Lloyd Garrison.

THURLOW WEED'S APOLOGY.—Thurlow Weed's apology for his personal abuse of the editor of this journal, from time to time, through a period of some twenty-five or thirty years, is that he believed in his accusations, though he could not undertake to prove them. Why not, then, make a clean breast of it by saying that all these accusations, accepted without proof, and circulated in the face of all the evidence and facts in the premises, were libellous assaults, and within reach of the strong arm of the law? Waiving all objections upon the subject, however, we now submit the basis of an amicable to the Reverend Mr. Weed, in the single proposition that he will join us in our approaching winter campaign against the rogues and rascals of the Albany and Washington lobby gang. Let him say "yes," and we shall give him the right hand of fellowship. But there must be no reservations in regard to "free wool statistics" or the Congress printing. What says our venerable Albany scene-shifter?

LOOK OUT FOR THE RATS.—We admonish our fellow citizens not to be led astray by a triangular or quadrilateral struggle for the comparatively unimportant office of Mayor, while all the old rats who have been fattening upon the city spoils years and years are devoting their energies to the Councilmen and Aldermen. Let our honest taxpayers combine to clean out the jobbers, strikers, pugilists and grogshop decoys from these two rotten branches of our city government, and let honest men be put in their places, and it will matter very little whether Tom, Dick or Harry is elected Mayor. In this connection the Fifth Avenue Democratic Vigilant Association may, if they will, do good service in the work of re-trenchment and reform.

THE ORGANIZATION OF CONGRESS—WHAT'S IN THE WIND?—We clip the following oracular paragraph from the Baltimore *Patriot*, which, it is said, speaks by authority of Hon. Henry Winter Davis, a leading Southern opposition member from said city:—

Bennett transfers the Southern opposition and seven of the anti-Lecompton votes to the democracy, body and bones, and makes them all vote for a Southern oppositionist for Speaker. Just wait, sir, till the 6th of December, and you'll see a far different state of things from that, though we know that the Secretary of the Southern opposition are not to be dictated to by the Richmond *Whig* or the New York *Herald*.

What can this mean? Mr. Cobb's plan is a union of the democrats upon a Southern opposition member for Speaker; the plan of the Richmond *Whig* is that the Southern opposition men shall stand, first and last, to their own candidate as an independent party. Mr. Winter Davis, we know, on the other hand, has urged a coalition between the Southern and Northern wings of the opposition. Perhaps, then, some of the Southern wing are prepared to go shares with the republicans in the organization of the House. Who speaks next?

THE RAILROAD SLAUGHTER AT SCHLICTHOCKE.—WHAT IS THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY ABOUT?—On the Coroner's investigation into the causes of the wholesale slaughter in this State, at the bridge of Schlichtocke, some two or three months ago, it appeared that the railroad officials

knew of the rottenness and unsafe condition of the bridge, and yet permitted the running of the trains over it, which resulted in the loss of so many lives. It was the universal opinion of the public at the time that these men ought to be indicted. As yet there is no indictment and no sign of one. What is the District Attorney of that district about? Has he been bought up by the directors of the Central Railroad?

The Panic in Virginia.

The people of Virginia appear to be the easy victims of some practical jokers in their midst, who, if once discovered, should receive no more consideration than if they were the most truculent abolitionists. The Charlottesville aid-de-camp of the Commander-in-Chief of the naval and military forces of Virginia appears to have been selected by these malignant jokers as the butt of their ill-timed pleasantries. All sorts of ridiculous stories are palmed off upon this unfortunate Colonel Davis, and through him upon the Executive authorities at Richmond and upon the people at large, until, as our Richmond correspondent asserts, the citizens have been worked up to a state of alarm that passes all comprehension, and are as bewildered as if they were under the influence of a professor of the black art.

This bewilderment assumes a variety of shapes. At one time it is a hostile encampment on the mountains. The colors of the invaders can almost be discovered in the distance. The alarm drums are beaten, and soon the military are under arms prepared to meet the foe. Some one brings a telescope; and lo, the delusion is dispelled. The motion that is seen, and which suggested the idea of riflemen on march, proceeds from the waving branches of a few sombre pine trees. All present feel the ridiculousness of the scene, but no one ventures to laugh openly; for such an offence would be construed into an act bordering on treason.

At another time a joker rides into Charlottesville on foaming speed, announcing that a band of several thousand abolitionists have crossed the Ohio at Wheeling, and are marching to the rescue of Old Brown. A trooper is instantly despatched to Harper's Ferry, with telegraphic despatches to Richmond, Washington and Baltimore, imploring immediate reinforcements to repel invasion, and the troops are actually on their way before the joke is discovered.

Other equally laughable though very improper jokes are perpetrated. The burning of a corn stack is magnified into the laying waste of the Old Dominion with fire and sword, and portentous are the preparations made by the military under Col. Davis' command to emulate the three hundred Spartans under Leonidas, and make one of the passes of the Blue Ridge a new Thermopylae. Doubtless they would do it; but their patriotism and valor are not put to the test. The spark from a nigger's pipe or a freeman's cigar caused all the trouble.

And then comes that cruellest of all jokers, Smith Crane, Esq., who tells the Leonidas of Charlottesville that he had overheard a conversation about a "band of five hundred" preparing to ride—

Into the midst of death,
Into the mouth of hell,
For the rescue of Old Brown. If Smith Crane, Esq., has not been appropriately punished for the last "sell," no time should be lost in giving him his deserts. He is one of the practical jokers of Virginia, and he ought to be taught that there is more cruelty in such jokes than there was even in the Harper's Ferry invasion. They keep up a needless and very deplorable alarm and excitement throughout the State, and under that excitement very inexcusable things are done. A Richmond militia man, for instance, is threatened with imprisonment and prosecution for treason because he ventures to have an opinion of his own on the subject of the irrepressible conflict, and to be manly enough to express it. A Norfolk dry goods man, who, in the confidence of his business, happens to say something which his customer construes into a want of admiration of the peculiar institution, is brought to a summary settlement and banished from the State. And a Virginia gentleman, whose fidelity to slavery is unquestioned, comes very near being mobbed because he has the imprudence to present a Massachusetts bank note in payment for drinks at a tavern. The passport system is established in its most repulsive form throughout the State. Strangers are dogged and scrutinized, and menaced wherever they turn. The censorship of the press is more rigid and intolerant than was ever dreamt of by a Napoleon or a Bourbon. Governor Wise has a project for getting up a Landwehr on the plan of Russia or Hanover; and, lastly, all residents who are known to be in favor of free, as opposed to slave institutions, are notified by resolutions of county meetings to depart in peace within sixty days, or abide the consequences. When it is recollected how close the contest was on the question of emancipation at the last Constitutional Convention of Virginia ten years ago, this last movement will be seen to be fraught with immense mischief to the interests of the State.

While making every allowance for the natural exasperation of the people of Virginia at seeing their State invaded by a band of crazy desperadoes, we cannot but regret that their excitement and alarm should have carried them so far as to subject them to ridicule. We believe that since the capture of Brown and his party, not an abolitionist has crossed the Potomac or the Ohio with hostile intentions, or is likely to do so; and that fact is one of the strongest evidences of the little sympathy felt with Brown by the masses at the North, however much abolitionist presses and abolitionist preachers may try to get up such a sentiment. Let somebody take care of Colonel Davis, and let Brown be hanged without any more fuss.

MR. JEFFERSON BRICK HARD TO PLEASE.—Our quadrilateral cotemporary, only a few days ago, if we are not mistaken, was sorely displeased on account of the alleged neglect by the administration of Brownsville and the immediate Texas frontier occupied by the filibuster Cortinas. But upon hearing that Mr. Buchanan had resolved not only to clear out these filibustering vagabonds, but to march an army of occupation into the Northern provinces of Mexico, Mr. Brick can hardly find terms sufficiently strong in which to express his indignation and disgust. What, then, does the running hero of the quadrilateral want? Is it a limitation of our military operations to "the elbows of the Minio," or "a foreign fleet suddenly coming up on our question of citizenship," or anything of that sort? Speak out, Master Brick.

THE MUNICIPAL ELECTION.—THE MAYORALTY AND THE COMMON COUNCIL.
Between the nominations of the different parties we have plenty of candidates for the Mayorality, and in choosing from amongst them there can hardly be any failure in getting an acceptable man for the office, if that were a matter of much importance; but, with the little power now in the hands of the chief magistrate, it unfortunately is not. These candidates are all respectable and able enough. Fernando Wood is an efficient man for Mayor; so is Havemeyer; Ogden and Draper likewise are efficient enough; but their abilities cannot be counted good for anything under the present municipal system. On the other hand, the selection of the Aldermen, Councilmen and School Commissioners is a matter of vital importance to us all; and as these nominations are not yet fully made, there is time enough for the citizens of each ward to pick out a respectable class of persons for these positions, and oust the nominees of the grogshop keepers, rowdies and pugilistic governing classes.

What is the Democratic Vigilant Association doing on this subject? Is this just the time for them to act. Let them select such men for Aldermen and Councilmen as W. B. Astor, Hamilton Fish, Luther Bradish, the Grinnells, Messrs. Minturn, Blatchford and others of that class. These men would insure an economical government; but the persons nominated by the shoulder-bitter fraternity go into the Common Council to plunder the city. They cannot afford to take office for any other purpose, and they readily accomplish it by means of corrupt jobs of all kinds—opening and widening streets for instance—in which the spoils are divided between the contractors and the members of the boards, and for which property owners are ruinously assessed. We have no doubt that the campaign of jobs for the next Council is already mapped out, and the plans laid. Among other jobs in prospect, there is the widening of Nassau street, on the pretence that the business of that locality requires it, while it is notorious that Nassau street will be too wide for the trade down town in a few years. Then, Washington Heights is to be cut up, and its picturesque beauty obliterated to satisfy a few rapacious speculators; the city is to be overrun with railroads, which it is confidently expected will net some millions to the parties interested; the revenues of the city from markets, ferries, and other sources, are to be made matters of profit, not to the city itself, which sadly needs them, but to the harpies of the Corporation. Such operations as these it is that have formed the principal business of our Common Council for many years past, and it is the scent of the spoils to be shared which has allured all the corrupt and ignorant loafers to seats in the city legislature, like vultures to a feast of carrion.

But this tide of corruption and rascality can be stayed if a respectable class of men, such as we have named, are elected to the Common Council; and the time is now ripe to accomplish that desirable object. Candidates should be chosen in every ward for their honesty and good standing in the community alone, irrespective of party preference or prejudice. There is no party issue involved in the municipal election; no question of North and South, abolitionism, or niggers in any shape—we are not afraid of niggers here; neither as it anything to do with the Presidential election. What we want is simply a good and economical local government, protection for life and property in our midst, fair and equitable taxation, deliverance from the hands of the rowdies, loafers and vagabonds who control everything, and the utter demolition of the fraudulent system of jobbing and speculating at the expense of the people, for the benefit of a few miserable politicians and the worthless ruffians who elect them to office.

A VOICE TO THE OPERA MANAGERS.—DON'T MISS A FIGURE.

About thirty years ago it was our good fortune to hear the celebrated John Randolph, of Roanoke, make one of his best speeches in the federal House of Representatives. He closed a most eloquent forensic effort, in which he had dwelt upon the circumstances that the virtuous career of many great men had been arrested by some apparently trivial mistake, and pointed his moral with an allusion to the Russian expedition of the great Napoleon, wherein, said Mr. Randolph, the greatest captain of the age missed a figure. He made a blunder, which was worse than a crime, and never recovered from its effects. If we look at the career